

ARTICLES

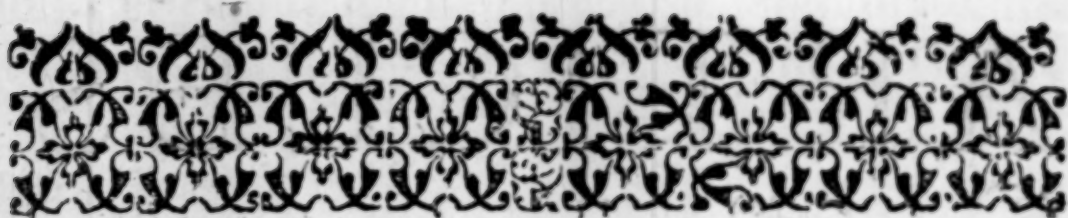
Ecclesiasticall to be enquired
of by the Church-wardens, and
Sworne-men of the Arch-deaconry
of HEREFORD.

In the Visitation of the Worshipfull
Master RICHARD MOVNTAGVE,
Arch-deacon of Hereford this present
yeare 1 6 2 0.

And in the eighteenth yeare of the raigne of
our most dread Soueraigne Lord King
I A M E S.



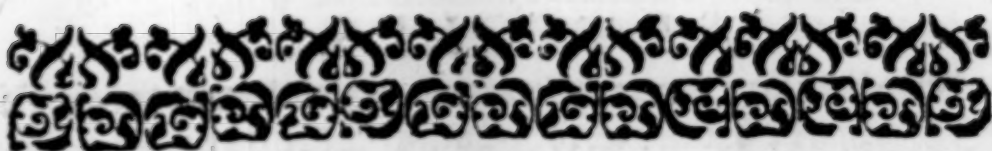
LONDON
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1 6 2 0.



The Oath.



OV shall sweare by the great Name of Almighty G O D, That you shall diligently consider of al and euery the Articles following, giuen to you in charge, and make a true answere to euery of the same, seuerally and distinctly in writing, presenting all, and euery such person and persons of your Parish and others, as haue within your Parish, or elsewhere, committed any offence or fault, or made any default mentioned in any of the said Articles, or which are vehemently suspected or defamed for any such offence or fault: Wherein yee shall not vnduely present any person or persons, of euill will, malice, hatred, or any corrupt affection: nor shall for loue, fauour, meede, or dread, or any other corrupt affection, spare to present any that bee offenders, suspected or defamed in any of these cases, but shall doe vprightly, as men hauing the feare of God before your eyes, and desirous to maintaine vertue, and suppress vice: So helpe you God by Christ Iesus.



First, you shall enquire, and truely present vpon your oathes taken, whether any person whatsoeuer doth maintaine or defend any heresies, false opinions, or popish errors, contrary to the Word of God, and contrary to the Articles of Religion established in this Realme.

2 Secondly, whether any person be an impugner or Deprauer, either in word or writing of the forme of Ecclesiasticall gouernment of this Church of England, or hath spoken in derogation of the booke of Common prayer, or the rites and ceremonies prescribed to be vsed, either in the seruice of God, or administration of the Sacraments, or against any of the Articles agreed vpon, Anno 1562. or against the Kings supremacie in causes Ecclesiasticall, or against the Oath of supremacie or alleageance, as pretending the same to be not lawfull nor warrantable by the Word of God.

3 Whether any person hath thrust himselfe into any Ecclesiasticall function, without an ordinary calling, as to read publike Seruice in Church or Chappell, not being lawfully ordered Deacon at the least.

4 Whether your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, presume to preach, not being lawfully licensed, and whether any be admitted to preach in their Cures not licensed accordingly.

5 Whether your Parson or Vicar be knowen, suspected, or probably reported to haue obtained his Benefice by any Simoniacall compact, made either by himselfe or others, directly, or indirectly, or doe let out his liuing to farme, or any part thereof, to any person in consideration of any such compact: and whether the Patron hath bestowed the Benefice ~~of~~ the incumbent freely, or by Simony.

6 Whether you haue had a Sermon preached euery Sabbath day this last yere: if not, yet how many haue you had: and vpon those ~~Sundays~~ Sundays that you had not a Sermon, haue you had an ~~Homily~~ Homily read.

7 Whether there be a booke kept according to the Canon, wherein euery Preacher that cometh from any other place doth
A 2 subscribe,

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subscribe his name, the day when he preached, the name of the Bishop of whom he had licence to preach, what bee the names of those which preached the yeere past, and vpon what dayes?

8 Whether your Minister vpon euery Sunday in the afternoone beefore Euening Prayer, doth call for, instruct, and examine all the youth, and ignorant persons of your Parish of both Sexes, in the Catechisme and grounds of Christian Religion: whether doth hee admitte any person to the Lords Supper beefore hee hath examined them, and found them able to say the Catechisme?

9 Whether bee there any Parents, Masters, or Gouvernours, who send not their children and seruants to be catechized on euery Sabbath day, or any children or seruants that refuse to bee instructed or examined?

10 Whether your Minister doth bestow his time in the study of the holy Scriptures, for the increas of his knowledge, and profiting of his Parishioners, or otherwise neglecting his calling, betake himselfe to worldly affaires, mercenary or manuell trades haunt markets: intermedleth or solliciteth matters of law for other men?

11 Whether is your Minister suspected of any notorious crime, or any euill example of life, to the offence and scandall of his vocation: is he a peace-maker among his Parishioners, and no sower of discorde?

12 Whether doth your Minister vse or weare any kind of apparell, which is excessive for the place, or vnseeming his calling, for colour or fashion of the same, or otherwise then according to the 74. Canon: or doth vse to haunt and frequent, or liue in any Tauerne or Alehouses, or keepe or suffer to be kept any Tauerne, Alehouse, or Victualling house in his Parsonage or Vicarage house?

13 Whether doeth your Minister keepe any suspected woman in his house, ~~or being married, doeth hee keepe any woman in his house, which is not either his mother, or his sister, or neere kinswoman?~~

14 Whether doth your Minister vsually weare the Surplesse in the time of diuine Seruice: whether hath hee subscribed to the forme and manner of Gods worship in the Church of England, prescribed

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prescribed in the ~~Common~~ ^{Common prayer} Booke and to the three Articles mentioned in the 36. Canon.

15 Whether doe you know of any within your Parish that are maintainers or procurers of Schismes or schismaticall assemblies, or of meetings, conuenticles, assemblies, or congregations of the Kings bozne subjects, other then such as by the Canons and Lawes Ecclesiasticall of this Realme are allowed?

16 Whether doth your Minister vse any other forme of Common prayer then is prescribed in the Booke of Common prayer? Whether doth hee follow the directions of the same, and vse such Rites and Ceremonies in Seruice and administration of the Sacraments, as by the said Booke are required, and none other?

17 Whether your Minister admitteth to the Communion any notorious offender, adulterer, fornicatour, or incestuous person, which hath not first done his penance, or any malicious person, who is notoriously knowen to be out of charitie, or any excommunicated person, or any stranger of another Parish: and hath your Minister presently vpon the putting backe of any such offender certified the cause to the Ordinarie?

18 Whether hath any been married within your Parish by your Minister, or any other, that haue not vpon the day of their mariage receiued the holy Communion, or any beene married in priuate houses, or in times prohibited, or without bannes solemnely asked thre severall Sundapes, otherwise then by licence of the Ordinarie: or hath your Minister vsed the forme of thankesgiuing prescribed for women after child-birth for any woman unlawfully begotten with child, otherwise then in the habit of a penitent sinner, or before sufficient caution bee taken for her, not departing the Parish untill shee hath done penance for her offence?

19 Whether your Parson, Preacher, Lecturer, or Vicar, doth not in his owne person at the least twice in euery yeere, vpon two Sundapes publikely, both in the forenoone and afternoone in your Church or Chappell, reade himselfe the Diuine Seruice, and also as often in euery yeere administer both the Sacraments in such manner and forme, and with the obseruation of all such Rites and Ceremonies as are prescribed by the booke of Common prayer, according to the 56. Canon.

20 Whether your Minister doeth daily visit the sicke, and ex-

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hozt them truely to beleue in Christ, ~~and comfort~~ them of their sins, and comfort them out of Gods Word, in the doubts and distresses of their consciences, and pray for them, as is prescribed in the booke of Common prayer :

21 Whether your Parson, Vicar, or Farmer of the tithes, doth suffer either the Parsonage, or Vicarage house, or other buildings thereto belonging, or Chancell to fall to ruine or decay, and doth not presently repaire them, or whether he or any other hath taken away or vncouered any Church, Chappell or Chancell, or any part of them, or any Church-porch, Vestry, or Almes house, or hath pulled downe the Belles, or made any other spoile or waste vpon his Benefice, either in timber or woods, or selling trees in the Church-yard :

22 Whether is your Church euery way sufficiently and well repaired, and no defect in glazing, tiling, seeling, pauing, or in any thing else belonging to the same : and is your Church-yard sufficiently fenced with wall, raile, pale, or such other fence as hath bene accustomed :

23 Whether haue you in you parish Church or Chappell, the new booke of Common prayer, two Psalters, the whole Bible in English of the largest volume, lately set forth by his Maiesties authoritie, the two volumes of Homilies, the table of ten Commandments, whole and vntozone, the table of degrees of consanguinitie and affinitie, a conuenient Pulpit, a fit seat for your Minister, a decent Communion Table vpon a frame, a linnen cloth to couer it, with some other couer of silke or such like, a Communion cup of silver, and couer of the same, a cleane sweet standing pot, or stoope of pewter, or other purer mettall to put in the wine, for the vse of the Communion, a sufficient Font well couered, a decent Surplesse with large sleeves, a sure coffer with three lockes for the Register booke, a strong Chest for the Almes-bowe, with three lockes thereto, and haue your Minister and Church-wardens seuerall keyes to those Coffers, according to the 70. Canon :

24 Whether doth your Minister and Church-wardens euery Sunday after Euening Prayer take the Register Booke, and then Register the names of all those who are Christened, married, or buried the weeke before, and is the same a faire booke of parchment, and safely kept vnder locke and keyes, and whether any doe serue
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as a Curate or Deacon, ~~and~~ licenced under the Ordinaries scale, or serue two Cures, or not in due time, and what stipend hath your Curate by peere?

25 Whether your Minister hath published and executed all such Proceses as haue beene directed vnto him from the Lord Bishop or his Chancellour, and whether hee hath duly made Certificates thereof, or of penance orderly and penitently, or done at other times, or in other sort then was prescribed, or not done at all?

26 Whether hath your Parson or Vicar moe Benefices then one, how many, and in what places they be, and what be the names and values of them, and whether hee is absent from among you above 80. dayes in any one peere in all, and how many miles are his Benefices distant: whether he doth keepe hospitalitie amongst you at his living some part of the peere, and how long: and if hee hath two Benefices, hath hee a preaching Curate on that Benefice whereon he doth not reside?

27 Whether hath your Parson or Vicar let any lease or grant of his Parsonage or Vicarage, or any part thereof, to whom hath he let the same, and for how long?

28 Whether your Clarke being aged 20. yeeres at least, be approued by the Ordinary, and haue taken an Oath as in such cases is required: is he able to read distinctly, and to answere as appertaineth to his office in the Church, and vseth diligence in keeping the Church, the Chancell, Communion Table, Font, Bookes, ornaments of the Church, and all such things as belong to his charge, safe, decent and cleane?

29 Whether is there any Schoole-master teaching either openly or in any Nobleman or Gentlemans house in your parish, or any person who practiseth Physicke or surgery, not being lawfully licenced?

30 Whether haue any Lords of misrule, dauncers, players, or any other disguised person, beene suffered to enter into the Church or Chappell with games or dances, to the prophaning of Gods house, or into the Church-yards especially in time of diuine Seruice: and if they haue, what bee the names of such disordered persons?

31 Whether there bee any unlawfull or prophane exercises
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used upon the Sabbath day, and who gave them license, whether any doe vse dancing or such like sports or recreations on the Sabbath day before the end of all diuine Seruice appointed for that day contrary to his Maiesties declaration in that behalfe: whether be there any common drinkings in the Church, and who were present at such drinkings, or sports, or any that doe sit in Tauerne or Ale-houses or Streets, upon Sundayes or Holy-dayes, in the time of Morning or Evening prayer?

32 Whether bee there any in your Parish that vse any handicraft, or worke, or which keepe open shop for sale of wares upon any Sabbath or Festiuall daye, or which in time of harvest, upon such dayes doe labour about corne, hay, or any such businesse: or whether there be any that hunt and hawke upon any Sabbath or Festiuall day, or vse any unlawfull exercises, or any that haue or vse any carriages by Wayne or otherwise upon any those dayes?

33 Whether there bee in your parish any hinderers of the Diuine Seruice of God, or which doe vse any iangling, talking, walking, or any other vnseemely behauiour in the Church or Church-yard, or disquiet any there present to serue God?

54 Whether doth your Minister giue warning aforesaid to his Parishioners for receiuing of the Communion, as the 22. Canon requireth; and are there any within your parish that doe not frequent Diuine Seruice, or any which are of conuenient age, that doe not communicate in the Lords Supper thise in euery yeere at the least, and therof once at Easter, or receiue Seminary Priests or other seducers into their houses? And whether there bee any strangers that sojourne in your Parish, especially about Easter, and doe absent themselves from Church, or any that bee hinderers or deriders of true Religion, or of those which profess it, what are their names and surnames?

35 Whether your Churchwardens haue beene diligent themselves in frequenting Diuine Seruice, and doing their office, and haue duely giuen account at the yeeres end of the goods and rents of the Church, without detaining any in their hands, or not distributed the publike almes indifferently?

36 Whether when any man or woman is passing out of this life, the bell bee tolled, to giue warning to the people to pray for the
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the sick person : if not, in whose default. And whether at the death or buriall of any person, there bee any more ringing of bells, then one peale before the buriall, and another after, or any ringing at all in time of Common Prayer, preaching, or reading of homilies :

37 Whether any person in your Parish hath remained excommunicate by the space of fortie dayes, and whether any such doe intrude himselfe vnto Diuine Seruice, the Sacraments, or public assemblies, and who are encouragers, or keepers of company with such as so remaine excommunicate, or doe keepe any excommunicate person in their houses, or set them to worke : or whether any excommunicate Recusant or other obstinate excommunicants haue bene buried in Church or Church-yard within your Parish, and by whom were any such buried, and who were present :

38 Whether any be knowne or suspected to be adulterers, fornicators, incestuous persons, bawdes, or receptors of incontinent persons into their houses, or which conuey or suffer them to goe away before they doe make satisfaction to the congregation : or any that heeretofore hauing bene presented of any of the aforesayd crimes, haue for that cause departed your Parish, and are now returned againe :

39 Whether there be any blasphemers of the Name of God, or swearers among you :

40 Whether there bee any that brawl, rale, or fight in the Church or Church-yard :

41 Whether there bee any drunkards, ribalds, malicious, contentious and vcharitable persons, common slanderers, raplers, scolders, or sowers of discorde among you :

42 Whether any person in your Parish bee knowne or reputed to vse any witchcraft, sorcery, charme, enchantment, or vntawfull inuocation, or any that doe take vpon them to tell destinies, or to guide men to things lost, or any that resorteth vnto such for hepe and counsel :

43 Whether haue there bene any children borne in your Parish, which haue not bene brought to bee baptized in your Parish Church, but haue bene baptized at home, eyther by some Semi-

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mary Priest, Lay person or Widwe, and what is the name of that Priest, Lay person, or Widwe, or any of the children of Recusants, or of sojourners with Recusants, which haue had their baptism deferred longer then the next Sabbath day, or which remaine as yet unbaptized, and whose are those children?

44 Whether haue any beene admitted to bee Godfather or Godmother to any childe in your parish, which before that time haue not receiued the holy Communion: and whether any receiue the holy Communion otherwise then most reuerently and humbly kneeling vpon their knees?

45 Whether doe you know any person married within the degrees of consanguinitie or affinitie by the law of God forbidden: or any persons diuorced lawfully, which company together: or any persons lawfully married, which haue contrary to law forsaken their wiues, or husbands, or liue not together: or any married being formerly precontracted to others: or any which haue married without consent of their parents or otherwise then betwene the houre of eight or twelue of the clocke in the forenoone?

46 Whether doe you know any person formerly presented, which hath not beene enioyned penance, or any enioyned by law to doe penance, who either hath not done it, or not penitently, but scornfully, and not in forme, habite, and time prescribed: or any that haue laughed or scorned at those who haue done their penance, and what be their names.

47 Whether any Hospitall or Almes-house bee either pulled downe, or growne to decay, whether the number of poore and impotent persons that were appointed by the founders, are there releued or maintained: and if not, in whose default: or any lands or legacies giuen to such or other godly uses, which are not employed accordingly?

48 Whether doe you know any person within your parish, who directly or indirectly taketh vsurie or interest for money lent, contrary to the lawes of God and this Realme, who are they, and what is the manner of their vsury?

49 Whether doe you know any person, who being named Executor of any last Will and Testament, doth presume to execute or deale with the goods of the Testator before the Will bee
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procured, or Administrators before the Administration is committed unto them, or any hinderers of the performance of such Will, or any forgers or changers of such Will, or any Executors which hath not fulfilled the Testators Will, in nor payment of legacies to good and godly uses?

50 Whether haue your Church-Wardens solde or alienated any of the Church goods, who they be, and to whom?

51 Whether hath any Church-Warden or Swornemen at any time concealed any disorder, crime, or fame of any crime, and not presented the same to be reformed?

52 Whether for the retaining of the circuit and limits of your parish, your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, Church-Wardens, and certaine of the substantiall and chiefe men of your parish, in the dayes of perambulation, commonly called the Rogation, walke and compasse the accustomed bounds of your parish: and whether in the said perambulation, the Minister doth vse any other rite or ceremony, then to say or sing to the prayse of God, some Psalmie of David of thanksgiving, as the hundred and third Psalmie, or hundred and fourth, with the common Letany and prayers following the same, or reading some part of holy Scripture or Homilie, wearing the Surplesse, and without carrying badgers, or hant-bells, or making stay at crosses, or such like popish observations?

53 Whether haue your Church-Wardens from time to time leuied twelue pence for every day, of those who absent themselves from Church, according to the Statute: and whether hath the same beene bestowed vpon the poore as it ought or no, what are the names of them who haue so absented themselves, and when haue they beene so absent: and whether doth your Minister admonish the Church-Wardens openly in the Church, after the second Lesson, at Morning and Evening prayer, to looke to their charge in that behalfe?

54 What Recusants Papists are there in your parish: present their names, qualities and conditions, how long haue the said popish Recusants abstained from diuine Seruice, or from the Communion? Doe any of the sayd Recusants labour to seduce and withdraw others from the Religion now established: and doe they

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they instruct their families and children in popish Religion, or doe any of them keepe any Ornamentals of superstition uncovered?

55 Whether any of your Parish who heretofore being popish Recusants, haue since reformed themselves, and come to Church to heare Divine Service, and receiue the Sacraments: if yea, then who are they, and how long since haue they so conformed themselves, and whether doe they still remaine and abide in the same conformitie: and is there a Booke provided in your Parish to register the names of all such Recusants who so conforme and submitte themselves, according to the Statute 35. Eliza.

56 Whether haue you ^aterrier of all the gleable lands, meadows, gardens, orchards, houses, stocks, implements, tenements, and portions of tithes (both within your Parish and without) belonging to your Parsonage or Vicarage, taken by the view of honest men in your said Parish: and whether the same terrier be layd vp in the Bishops Registry: and in whose hands any of them are now. And if you haue no terrier already made in parchment, you the Church-Wardens and Side-men, together with your Parson or Vicar, or in his absence with your Minister, are to make diligent inquiry and presentment of the premises, and make, subscribe, and signe the sayd terrier as aforesayd?

57 And generally, whether doe you know any of the Lawes Ecclesiasticall violated or broken, or any other Ecclesiasticall matter worthy of redress: and if you doe, present the same: And in all your presentments, as neere as possible you may, note the yeere and the moneth of euery offence committed?

58 Whether doth your Minister vpon Wednesdaies and Fridayes, not being Holy dayes, reade in your Church or Chappell publikely the Litanie and other Prayers appoynted in the booke of common Prayer for those dayes, and whether doth hee reade the Communion against sinners, in such order and forme as it is there also prescribed?

59 Whether doth your Minister vpon some Sundayer or Holy dayes, in the afternoone, before Divine Service, reade ouer once euery yeere all the Canons Ecclesiasticall, published

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by his Maiesties authority, An. 1603. publikely in your Church
or Chappell where he serueth :

60 Whether doth your Parson, Vicar, or Curate, keepe a iust
and perfect note of all such as doe communicate in your Parish, or
certifie as Communicants those who neuer received :

61 Whether your Minister doe refuse or delay, to christen any
childe brought to bee christened upon Sundayes and Holydaies,
according to the booke of Common Prayer, or being informed of
his weakenesse or danger of death, doe refuse to goe to the sayde
place, where the sayd Infant remaineth to baptize it :

62 Whether there haue growen in your Parish, since the last
Visitation, or before, which is not presented, any contention be-
twixt any of the Parishoners, touching the placing or displacing
of any, in any Seate or Pewe in the Church : And whether there
hath beene any Pewe builded since the foresayd time in any your
Churches, without expresse leaue and consent first had of the
Ordinarie of the Diocesse, and by whom haue any such bene
built :

63 Whether there be any Anne-keepers, Ale-wines, Tictuall-
lers, or Tiplers, that suffer, or doe admit any person or persons in
their houses, to eate, drinke, or play, at Dice, Cards, Tables,
Bowles, or such like games, in the time of Common Prayer or
Sermon on Sundayes or holydaies, or any Butchers or other,
that commonly vse to sell meate, or other things in the time of
Common Prayer, preaching, or reading of homilies. and whether
in any faires or common Markets falling upon the Sundayes,
there be shewing of any wares before morning Prayer bee done ;
and whether any markets or selling of wares bee vsed or suffered
in any Church-parks on the Sabboth dayes, by common Packe-
men, or Pedlers going about, ~~or any other~~ *or any other* .

64 Whether the former Church-Wardens, or Swornemen
haue of any priuate or corrupt affection, concealed any crime or
other disorder in their time done in your Parish, and haue not
presented the same : And whether they, or any of them, at any
such time, as they should haue beene at Diuine Seruice on Sun-
dayes or holydaies, and should there haue obserued others
that were absent, haue beene awaie themselves and at home, or

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in some Tauerne or Ale-house, or else about some worldly busines, or at Bowles, Cardes, Tables, Dice, or other games, without regard of their office and duety in that behalfe :

65 Whether any notorious Recusant, who hath beene denounced excommunicated for his disobedience and contempt therein, or any other person, who hath for some grievous and notorious crime beene denounced excommunicated, and died excommunicate were buried in Christian buriall, not having before his death sought to be absolved, and testified the same his submission to some honest and discreet man, who shal upon his oath signifie to the Ordinarie before whom he was excommunicated for his absolution,

FINIS.

